

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 13 with the following:

According to a variant, the polymer can have a molecular mass weight
average molecular weight ranging between 10^4 and 10^7 daltons and a proportion
of hydrophobic units Hb ranging between 0.5 and 60%.

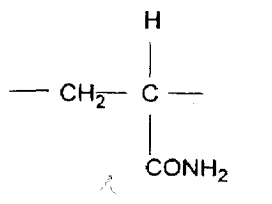
Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16 with the following:

The polymer according to the invention can be selected from the group
consisting of:

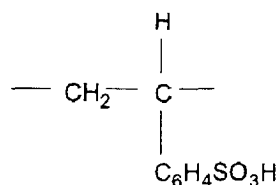
- HMPAM where R5 is H and Z1 is CONH₂, R'5=CH₃, Z2 is COOR'1 with
R'1=C₉H₁₉, and
- ~~— S1, S2 where Pa is H and Z1 is CONH₂, R'5'H and Z2 is C₆H₄SO₃H,~~
- Hbl where Pa is H, Z1 is COOH, R'5 is H and Z2 is COOR' 1 with R'1 is
C₄.

After the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 16 and before the paragraph
beginning on page 3, line 22, please add the following:

The polymer according to the invention may also be S1, S2 having units of



and

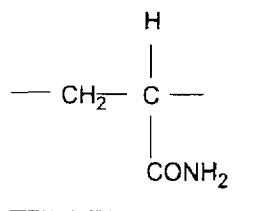


Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 22 with the following:

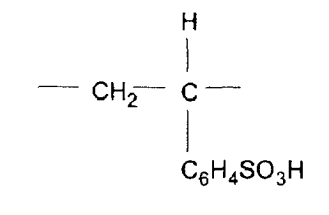
The mineral filler can consist of silica whose grain size ranges distribution range is between 5 and 200 μm and microsilica whose grain size ranges distribution range is between 0.1 and 20 μm .

Please replace the paragraphs beginning on page 6, line 14 through page 7, line 3 with the following:

- **HMPAM:** acrylamide (Hy)/nonyl methacrylate (Hb) copolymer, according to the description above, with $R_5=\text{H}$, Z_1 is CONH_2 , $R'_5=\text{CH}_3$, Z_2 is COOR'_1 with $R'_1=\text{C}_9\text{H}_{19}$; it can have a molecular mass weight average molecular weight of about $84068 \cdot 10^6$ daltons and a hydrophobe (Hb) proportion ranging between 0.5 and 1.5 %;
- **S1, S2:** acrylamide (Hy)/styrene sulfonate (Hb) copolymers, branched or not, ~~according to the description above, where R_5 is H, Z_1 is CONH_2 , $R_4=\text{H}$, Z_2 is~~
- ~~$\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ having units of~~



and



and having a molar ratio of about 50/50 and a molar mass weight average molecular weight ranging between 500,000 and $5 \cdot 10^6$ daltons. S1 is not branched, S2 is branched. The branching agent used is N,N' methylene bis acrylamide MBA;

- Hb1: acrylic acid (Hy)/butyl acrylate (Hb) copolymer, where R5 is H, Z1 is COOH, R'5 is H and Z2 is COOR'1 with R'1 being C4, comprising about 80 % acrylate acrylic acid units, and of molecular mass a weight average molecular weight ranging between 10^4 and $5 \cdot 10^4$ daltons.